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Aug 28th 2018

Via ECFS Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

## Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1

Dear FCC,

I am writing to protest against AT&T's (and their trade association, US Telecom's) recent petition to the FCC to take away critical unbundled network elements that are currently accessible to competitive local broadband providers. These unbundled elements are critical last-mile copper and inter-city fiber; the very technology that allowed such competitive broadband to grow, expand fiber deployment, and compete. Without access to this infrastructure, these local broadband providers are at risk of losing access to a huge portion of their customer base, leading to potentially higher rates, less fiber deployment, less free marketplace competition, and even less options for consumers.

I currently receive both my phone and internet broadband connection from such a competitive broadband provider. Even today, this provider gives me better customer service, better privacy guarantees, and lower pricing than I can get from AT&T. Were AT&T to succeed with this clearly anti-competitive, anti-free market, and monopolistic petition, I would lose access to my preferred local internet and phone service provider.

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